



46185
575B

Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 029650-109

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)	
)	
Yukitoshi KATO)	Group Art Unit: 3731
)	
Application No.: 09/993,633)	Examiner: G. Phanijphand
)	
Filed: November 27, 2001)	Confirmation No.: 8228
)	
For: INSTRUMENT FOR EXTROVERTING)	
BLOOD VESSEL)	

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

RECEIVED
MAY 14 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated April 8, 2003, the following remarks are submitted.

The Official Action indicates that the claims in this application are directed to two different species. As identified in the Official Action, the two species are as follows.

Species I depicted in Fig. 1.

Species II illustrated in Fig. 6.

Based on the observation that the two species are patentably distinct from one another, an election of species requirement has been imposed requiring an election of one of the two species.

In response to the election of species requirement, applicants hereby elect Species I illustrated in Fig. 1. It is understood that elected Species I also includes the illustrations in Figs. 2-5. Claims 1-10 and 18 are readable on the elected species.

In light of the foregoing, examination of Claims 1-10 and 18 directed to the elected species is respectfully requested.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By: Matthew L. Schneider
Matthew L. Schneider
Registration No. 32,814

P. O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
Phone: (703) 836-6620

Date: May 7, 2003